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January 11, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 8-B201  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I am writing to follow up on our letter of October 14<sup>th</sup> regarding the FCC's current discussions regarding proposed network neutrality rules.

As I mentioned in my initial letter, the mission of the World Institute on Disability is to eliminate barriers to full social integration and increase employment, economic security, and health care for persons with disabilities. In the furtherance of these goals, we recognize that access to information technology is particularly crucial for people with disabilities. This access often requires substantial additional bandwidth do to technology rich applications and interface protocols.

For people with disabilities, broadband access is not simply a matter of sending and receiving emails. It is actual communication, access to new economic opportunities and the ability to live an independent full rich life. In order to level the playing field for people with disabilities, innovation must continue at its current pace. Over the course of the last decade, we have seen profound progress made in broadband deployment and adoption and device innovation; which have provided new opportunities and fundamentally changed peoples' lives.

It is with this in mind, that we ask you and the Commission, to take all the time required to adequately assess the possible outcomes of any new net neutrality regulation.

We urge the FCC to take care and move deliberately to not augment any current regulation without first being sure that all perspectives, particularly those effecting people with disabilities, have been taken into account.

Sincerely,

Anita S. Aaron  
Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker